[28th March 1955

Deputy Secretary to the Industries, Labour and Co-operation Department.

* 1661 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have created any new post of Deputy Secretary or any similar post in the Labour Department; and

(*b*) if so, for what purpose?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Yes; the Government have created a post of Joint Secretary to Government in the Industries, Labour and Co-operation Department.

" (*b*) The Secretary to Government in the Industries, Labour and Co-operation Department as Chief Executive Officer of 'Lignite Project' has to formulate clear ideas of its future work, set up and organization. In addition a good deal of work has to be done in the field of small-scale industries. These items of work have to be attended to by the Secretary personally. He has also to be away from headquarters often as he has to make visits to Neiveli and other places. To enable him to bestow personal attention to work connected with the Lignite Project and to give him relief from part of his other duties, a post of Joint Secretary was created."

Gramasevaks.

* 1662 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Gramasevaks have been so far given training in the various centres in the State;

(*b*) how many of the trainees have been so far given employment; and

(*c*) what are the pay and conditions of service of the Gramasevaks?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Two hundred and eleven Gramasevaks were given training in the Extension Training Centres at Parli and Gandhigram.

" (*b*) All of them.

" (*c*) The scale of pay of Gramasevaks employed under the Community Projects Scheme is Rs. 45—3—60—2—80. The Gramasevaks employed under the National Extension Service Scheme are of two grades, Grade I in the scale of Rs. 80—5—110 and Grade II in the scale of Rs. 45—3—60—5—90. After undergoing the prescribed course of training, the Gramasevaks are put in charge of a group of 5 to 10 villages and they should serve the Government for a period of not less than

28th March 1955]

three years, failing which they are liable to refund to the Government the cost of stipends drawn by them during their training."

* 1663 Q.—SRI M. DHARMALINGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is difference of grades among the Gramasevaks under the National Extension Service;

(b) the scales of pay of such grades;

(c) whether any specific work has been assigned according to their grades; and

(d) how many I Grade Gramasevaks are working in Tiruvallur taluk and the nature of work turned out by I grade Gramasevaks?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Yes. There are two grades—Grade I and Grade II.

" (b) Grade I is in the scale of Rs. 80—5—110 and Grade II in the scale of Rs. 45—3—60—5—90.

" (c) No.

" (d) There are seven I Grade Gramasevaks in Tiruvallur taluk. The nature of work turned out by Grade I Gramasevaks is not anything different from that of the Grade II Gramasevaks.

The duties of Gramasevaks in general are to energise the life of the village community which has generally become stagnant and unresponsive to any change from the traditional pattern; to get the villagers to think and talk about their problems, needs and desires; to inspire them to work to live better and also to create in them a desire to learn how to live and lead a better life, by inspiring their interest to the findings and recommendations of science. In short, the Gramasevak is the pivot of the National Extension Service."

SRI M. DHARMALINGAM :—" Sir, it is an admitted fact that the present Government headed by Sri Kamaraj Nadar are trying their very best to do a lot for the speedy advancement of the Harijans. But here under the National Extension Service Schemes it seems in Tiruvallur taluk especially, they have appointed only one Harijan as I Grade Gramasevak out of seven, and three only out of 60 II Grade Gramasevaks. It is an insufficient representation to Harijans. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether Government will consider the question of giving increased representation to Harijans both in the I and the II Grades?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I have already answered, Sir, that those who have a particular aptitude for this type of work are selected and of course preferences are given to Harijans. Government cannot do anything more than that."